

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 PER-05 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

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FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1216

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OECD PARIS 30240

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OECD, APER

SUBJECT: CANDIDATE FOR REPLACING TIMMONS AS DEP SEC GEN

REF: DEPTTEL 218433

1. APPOINTMENT OF AMBASSADOR B.E.L. TIMMONS AS DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL OF OECD COMES ATEND DECEMBER 31. GIVEN THE CHRISTMAS-NEW YEAR BREAK, THIS MEANS EFFECTIVE WORKING TIME LEFT FOR TIMMONS NOT MUCH OVER THREE WEEKS.

2. FAILURE OF U.S. TO SUBMIT CANDIDATE FOR CONSIDERATION BY SECRETARY-GENERAL VAN LENNEP HAS PRODUCED INCREASING AMOUNT OF QUESTIONING, APPREHENSION, AND CRITICISM FROM ALL SIDES. DELEGATION HEADS OF OTHER OECD MEMBERS ASK ME VIRTUALLY DAILY WHETHER U.S. HAS CANDIDATE OR WHETHER U.S. WISHES TO RELINQUISH POST. BEING AWARE OF TIME NORMALLY INVOLVED IN CONSIDERING ANY CANDIDATE, MOVING TIME REQUIRED, ETC., RESPONSIBLE HEADS OF MISSION APPREHENSIVE ABOUT PROSPECTIVE GAP FOR THIS EXTREMELY ACTIVE POST, ON WHOSE INCUMBENT VAN LENNEP LEANS HEAVILY.

3. AS FOR SEC GEN VA LENNEP HIMSELF, HE IS INCREASINGLY BAFFLED AND IMPATIENT OVER OUR DELAY. HE ARGUES THAT, WHATEVER USG MAY FEEL ABOUT VACANCIES IN POSTS REPRESENTING THE UNITED STATES, LACK OF PROPOSED CANDIDATE FOR DEPUTY SEC GEN IMPOSES UNACCEPTABLE

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DIFFICULTIES ON HIMSELF, THE ORGANIZATION, AND MEMBER

GOVERNMENTS. SOME OF HIS RECENT REMARKS INDICATE DISTINCT
POSSIBILITY HE MAY LODGE REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIMMONS.
KNOWING ADAMANT POSITION TAKEN BY DEPARTMENT IN MAY, WHEN
U.S. INTENTIONS FOR TERMINATION AND REPLACEMENT OF TIMMONS
WERE ISSUED, I HAVE GIVEN HIM NO ENCOURAGEMENT ON THAT
POSSIBILITY. ROUND OF FAREWELL EVENTS IN HONOR OF TIMMONS'
SERVICES IS IN FULL SWING, AND HE HAS MADE HOUSING AND OTHER
DEPARTURE ARRANGEMENTS.
BROWN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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